

This is in response to RM-10805 thru RM-10811

I applaud all operators who can and do use CW, the most reliable means of communication. I just wish I could. Due to hearing problems and tinnitus I've found it impossible to master even 5 wpm. The ability to SEND and receive (license requires only receive ability) cw code does not make you any better, does not make you any more inventive, and should not make HF bands your private domain. I take offense at people who say because I can't send/receive code that I'm not a good operator. Good operators are not measured by the number of bands or modes they operate in, but how they operate, period. CW requirements keep a lot of good operators off the air. I volunteer with our county Search and Rescue team and the Skywarn/Storm Spotters. I see a benefit to HF bands for that.

One final point. I can't operate in the HF bands until code requirements are done away with. Let's say they never are. Along comes a commercial radio company/user that petitions the FCC to take over some of YOUR HF band. Would I help in the fight to keep those bands, that I'll never be able to use, for amateur use?? Of course I would, but I bet there are some out there that wouldn't. No, they're not good amateurs, but they're among us.